



Commission
to Prevent Violence
Against Women

**Arizona Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women
Victim Services Committee
May 9, 2019, 2:00 p.m.
Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family
Conference Room A**

1700 W. Washington, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007

A general meeting of the Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women was convened on May 9, 2018 at the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family at 1700 W. Washington, Suite 230, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, notice having been duly given.

Members Present (4)	
Tasha Menaker- Chair	
Kirstin Flores	
Patricia Klahr- Phone	
Kay Radwanski- Phone	
Staff/Guests Present (3)	Members Absent (3)
Rebecca Chesley	Ed Mercurio-Sakwa
Brittney Trahan	Jon Smith
Sonya Pierce-Johnson	Eve Scarff

Call to Order

- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair**, called the Victim Services Committee meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. with 5 members and 3 staff and guests present.

Welcome and Introductions

- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair**, welcomed everyone and asked all members, staff, and guests to introduce themselves.

Subcommittee Goals and Strategic Plan

- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair**, requested a review of the 2019 Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women Strategic Plan. **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair**, reviewed the 2019 Victim Services Committee strategic plan goals and asked if any committee members had any changes or recommended action plan items. **Tasha Menaker** asked if there were any immediate thoughts of additional objectives for the goals.
- **Kirstin Flores** asked if the committee members know how many current databases there are for sexual assault and domestic violence programs. **Tasha Menaker** stated the coalition does have a database of all of the domestic violence and sexual violence programs in the state of Arizona. **Tasha Menaker** also stated that the coalition has been

tracking the different collaborations across the state of Arizona. She mentioned that the development of the STOP implementation plan presented a number of needs and that more needs will surface as we prepare for the next implementation plan. She believes that this will be a great opportunity for the commission to get involved and take the lead in the community conversations for the next implementation plan.

- **Kirstin Flores** asked what the implementation plan refers to. **Tasha Menaker** stated that for the Governor's Office to apply for the STOP grant, an implementation plan must be created explaining what the grant funds are being used for. The next implementation plan must be done by 2021. **Rebecca Chesley** stated the commission is required to review the implementation plan and that perhaps the Victim Services Sub-Committee could take the lead on developing feedback for that plan.
- **Tasha Menaker** mentioned that she would like to see a real conversation on what the needs are in Arizona for survivors. The commission has an opportunity to think about what state level entities we want to dialogue with, so we can do some meaningful change for survivors in the state of Arizona. **Kirstin Flores** suggested the subcommittee partner with the State Agency Coordination Team, which is more active than they have been in the past. She stated that the department of housing has made more of a commitment to work with victims. **Rebecca Chesley** mentioned that DHS is creating a strategic plan for sexual assault and asked is there a similar process for domestic violence to do thorough needs assessment in the community. **Tasha Menaker** stated that she wonders if Patricia knows and that the strategic plan was a new initiative for DHS. **Kirstin Flores** asked if it was connected to specific funding. **Tasha Menaker** mentioned that DHS had some additional funding through their CDC grant that allowed DHS to do a state plan that has never been done before for sexual violence prevention. **Tasha Menaker** asked Patricia Klahr if a state plan for sexual and domestic violence has been done since the early 2000s. **Patricia Klahr** responded by saying that the last state plan she saw for sexual and domestic violence was done in the early 2000's. **Rebecca Chesley** stated that the last state plan she seen for sexual and domestic violence was completed in 2004. **Patricia Klahr** stated that she will send Laura Guild an email to confirm when the last state plan for sexual and domestic violence was completed.
- **Tasha Menaker** stated from her perspective it is important to expand coordinated community response. She also stated that she does not know if that is the best use of the expertise of the people that are on the sub-committee, who really understand the needs of survivors in the state. She mentioned that she would like for the subcommittee to investigate the needs of survivors. **Rebecca Chesley** stated that she agrees with Tasha and that a coordinated response does not have to be an official team but something like a coordination between housing and a victim advocate or housing and AHCCCS. Rebecca also mentioned that she does not want to duplicate any work so if there is someone who already has an evaluation that can give us some helpful information that would be helpful. **Tasha Menaker** responded by saying that she is not aware of any formal evaluation, but that because we will be doing the STOP implementation plan, it does not

make sense to start a separate effort. She mentioned maybe using what the commission has learned from the past plan and what the commission knows from talking with the executive directors, she believes that will be a good starting point. She stated that we can pull data from the needs that the commission knows exists already and have a discussion about what the Victim Services Sub-Committee can do to address the needs.

- **Rebecca Chesley** stated that it is open for discussion if the commission would like to something more formal or just get feedback from the coalition from what they are hearing in the community as well other state agencies that provide grant funding. Rebecca mentioned that she has her quarterly reports and her annual reports that indicate the needs of some sexual assault service providers . Rebecca asked if it would be possible to use quarterly reports from other agencies to address the needs. **Tasha Menaker** stated that the coalition can compile something because they have meetings of front-line advocates for sexual and domestic violence. Tasha also mentioned that she can get information from her program managers meetings and executive directors' meetings. The coalition has their own help line where they can track the needs of survivors when they call in. All this information can be compiled with the STOP plan and this will be considered the most recent data until the next round of community conversations is done.
- **Rebecca Chesley** asked what about including information from law enforcement and prosecutors on the needs that they are seeing. **Tasha Menaker** asked the subcommittee if they have any ideas on who could be contacted to get information regarding the needs law enforcement and prosecutors. Tasha stated she wonders if Elizabeth from APAAC will know or have any ideas. Tasha asked who about the law enforcement representatives on the commission. **Rebecca Chesley** stated that Chief Stahl, Dan Rincon, and Jason Zimmerman are all law enforcement representative on the commission. **Kirstin Flores** stated the only statewide group she can think of is AZPOST but they do training. **Rebecca Chesley** asked if the committee knows of any law enforcement organizations that would have a good indication of victim needs through the law enforcement lens. AZPOST is the organization that the commission has worked with most recently as far as getting information out but she does not know if they assess what is needed. **Kirstin Flores** stated that AZPOST might assess the needs so they would know how to adjust their training, but she is not sure. **Tasha Menaker** stated that another idea would be to speak with Jason Zimmerman about what is happening in ACFAN. **Rebecca Chesley** suggested getting the ideas from a forensic interviewer. **Tasha Menaker** agreed that was a good idea but she is trying to be cautious because the more people you bring, in the more you get into the STOP plan. Tasha suggested reviewing the current STOP plan and communicating with some of the service providers that are on commission to see what some of the ongoing needs are based on the STOP plan. **Rebecca Chesley** stated that she can send out the implementation plan to the subcommittee and at the next meeting include an overview from STOP grantees on how they are implementing the STOP plan. **Tasha Menaker** agreed that it is a good idea to reach out to STOP grantees to see what challenges they are still having in their community. **Kirstin Flores** asked if STOP

funding goes to primarily sexual assault now. **Sonya Pierce-Johnson** responded saying that the STOP grant is for domestic violence, stalking, teen dating violence and human trafficking. **Tasha Menaker** mentioned that SASP could be utilized as well. **Rebecca Chesley** agreed and stated that the implementation plan for STOP is used in SASP application.

- **Rebecca Chesley** stated that the subcommittee has a good idea as far as providers but from the Governor's Office perspective there is not a clear idea of collaborations. **She** mentioned that the information was attempted to be gathered at the sexual assault symposium, but that she does not know the best way to document the collaborations that are being done and the collaborations that are needed. She stated that Brittney Trahan, the GOYFF Vista, is working on a database for a contact list that we can send information out for any faith-based roundtables or symposiums that we have. **Tasha Menaker** stated that information can be shared but there needs to be a conversation regarding defining collaboration and what collaborating looks like.
- **Tasha Menaker** asked if there is anyone on the commission to represent ACFAN so we can have a list of all the MDTs. **Rebecca Chesley** agreed that they will have a better idea of MDTs and who is doing what in the state of Arizona. She sees often that organizations have a good partnership and they are not formal. **Tasha Menaker** stated that a list can be put together but the group should keep in mind that it is only serving a small percentage of survivors. It does not address the needs on a larger scale. **Rebecca Chesley** mentioned that it is a good starting point for the subcommittee to see who is doing what. **Tasha Menaker** stated that coalition has a list of SART's but that does not include MDT's and CCRT's.

Member Recruitment

- **Rebecca Chesley** mentioned that the subcommittees are allowed to bring on any public member and they do not have to go through the same application process. Rebecca suggested having someone from ACFAN join the committee. **Tasha Menaker** asked could people be a part of more than one subcommittee, and that she believes Jason Zimmerman would be a good asset to the subcommittee. **Rebecca Chesley** stated that she will reach out to Jason Zimmerman to see if he is willing to join the Victim Services Subcommittee.
- **Rebecca Chesley** asked for other subcommittee member suggestions. **Tasha Menaker** mentioned that it would be good to have another survivor on the subcommittee, and that she would like to invite someone from one or both tribal coalitions. **Rebecca Chesley** stated that she plans on contacting someone from Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition to be on the Outreach and Awareness Subcommittee, but she stated maybe having someone from Hopi-Tewa Women's Coalition to End Abuse be on the Victim Services Sub-committee or someone else from SWIWC.

- **Kirstin Flores** suggested Diana Lee from DHS to join the subcommittee since she does a lot of statewide work. **Tasha Menaker** agreed that Diana Lee should join the subcommittee because she is active and will be able to contribute a lot.
- **Rebecca Chesley** mentioned that she can reach out to the individuals that the subcommittee is interested in joining the subcommittee with the permission of Tasha Menaker. **Tasha Menaker** approved for Rebecca Chesley to contact the individuals of interests.
- **Tasha Menaker** suggested Sarah Kent to join the subcommittee. **Rebecca Chesley** stated that Sarah Kent is on the Human Trafficking Victim Services Sub-committee, but she may be willing to do both.
- **Tasha Menaker** suggested their program director, Kado Stewart, join the Victim Services Sub-committee. **Rebecca Chesley** mentioned that she believes that it would be beneficial to have a human trafficking organization on the commission or subcommittee.
- **Tasha Menaker** stated that she could not think of anyone at the moment but she would think about it. **Rebecca Chesley** mentioned that she would contact Nikki Green for suggestions.
- **Patricia Klahr** stated that she had heard from Laura Guild and the last state plan was done when Governor Napolitano was in office and she thought a refresher was done on it several years ago. **Tasha Menaker** mentioned that she can search for the refresher, but she is not sure herself where the refresher could be.
- **Tasha Menaker** asked if the subcommittee thinks of anyone else to recruit to the subcommittee if they should email Rebecca. **Rebecca Chesley** responded yes, they can email her but she will send them to Tasha Menaker for approval unless they are sent from Tasha Menaker herself.

Future Meeting Dates

- **Tasha Menaker** proposed to stick with the second Thursdays of each quarter.
- **Everyone** agreed that August 8th at 2:00pm would work.

Other Updates

Kay Radwanski wanted to remind everyone that the provisions of last year's house bill 2249 is effective January 1, 2020. The primary change in the legislation is that when an order of protection is issued the court will be sending it out for service to the administrative office of the courts and a web portal is being built where a person can fill out the information they need for an order of protection. They will still have to go to an Arizona court to file it but when someone goes into the web portal to create their documents and petitions that information will stay in the system for 90 days. During the 90-day period they are strongly encouraging people to reach out to victim advocates. Once the person goes to court and asks the court for assistance the process is being started and no longer will the plaintiff get the defendants service packet and decide if and when to ever have the order served. Kay stated that she is concerned that when she runs into victim advocates that they are not aware of the change and they have a important role

to make sure victims understand the risks of an order of protection and the need for a safety plan before they go to court. The victim may need assistance explaining their story and their petition. Kay stated that this is a form of victim service. **Tasha Menaker** mentioned that it is important for the coalition to be trained and clear what the process looks like so they can update all of their 40 hour advocacy trainees to make sure all of the advocates are being trained on the new process. Tasha stated that she does not know if that is a training that the court is giving or if it is something that can be set up and then the coalition can take responsibility for disseminating a webinar or training **Kay Radwanski** mentioned that the courts plan on doing a training victim service providers and will take responsibility for training court personnel but law enforcement and victim advocates would need to provide their own training. Kay mentioned that they plan on having access to the portal in June and will have people come in to do testing. They want to make sure the portal works from all technology platform. People will still be able to go to court and file but they are trying to move it to an electronic process, so it is much more efficient. It is going to be a big shift for law enforcement because they are going to get the petitions the same day the courts issue them. Kay just want to make sure that everyone is aware of the change. **Kirstin Flores** stated that they do a legislative update with their victims right training every year. Any victim's rights legislation they will go over and tell people about other victim services legislation that has passed but we would not train on it. Kirstin asked Kay would you suggest telling advocates to reach out to for more information. **Kay Radwanski** replied by saying that they should contact the coalition.

Kirstin Flores mentioned that domestic violence fatality review is one of the areas to increase participation. The Attorney General's office receives the fatality review reports every year. There are teams in every county and last year only 5 reports were received. Many reminders were sent but reports still were not received. Kirstin mentioned the Attorney General's office collects the reports and disseminate them. **Rebecca Chesley** mentioned that a fatality work group was a part of the commission that would review all reports. Rebecca Chesley asked are there any statutes that require a review team. **Kirstin Flores** responded that she believes so and that she can send Rebecca Chesley the information.

Adjournment

- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair** called for adjournment at 2:59. **Kirstin Flores** motioned to adjourn, **Kay Radwanski** seconded the motion.

Dated the 9th of May, 2019
Victim Services Subcommittee
Respectfully Submitted By:
Rebecca Chesley
Program Administrator, GOYFF